

atrophy. If I could save the union without freeing the slaves, I would do it. If I could save the union by freeing the slaves I would do it.

"He thought to save the union by freeing the slaves and the great Proclamation was prepared and signed and slavery forever destroyed and the union preserved. This was a noble deed, but it was a false sentimentality held by many of our best people of the loyal states and some of our greatest commanders. And for a long time even the President would not consent to the arming of the colored men, who had come within the union lines. But the necessity was finally forced upon the government and the result was most gratifying. Many thousands were armed and their drilling commenced. Men that had never known what a gun was, were sent to the front with a few days of preparation.

"One of our great commanders in his report of a great battle won, in describing the good work of the different colored regiments, said: 'The colored men, who had been at rest forever all doubt as to his efficiency as a soldier. And the colored troops fought nobly.'

"Four millions in bondage; their shackles could be heard clanking throughout every southern state. For many years before the great conflict began, about all that the United States marshals did was to return to the south the colored men, who had run away from their masters. 'Marching Through Georgia,' but there are but few of us who know of the destruction and suffering caused by that great army, which cut the Confederacy in two and did so much to bring about a final surrender of all the Confederate forces. There were thousands of colored people following Sherman. Hiding along the general spoke to a colored man and said, 'My man, where you people going?' Looking at the general with an earnestness, he said, 'Well, boss, we are going just where you white men are going.'

"That colored man, in his answer to Sherman, told the story of their progress from that time to the present. Truly he has been going where the white man goes. You find him a professor in our colleges, superintendent in our schools; look in our state legislatures, he is there; the professions of law, medicine and ministry, he is there, yes, and in the capital of the nation you find him filling high and responsible positions, and he has kept his word and is still going where the white man goes.

"When we consider the limited opportunities he has had, his progress has been most wonderful. Born and raised in slavery and his fathers closed against him without hope of any condition other than slavery, the world must admit that he is entitled to all the rights accorded to other men for his wonderful progress.

"Now we are inclined to believe that the Union soldiers, the Good Lord and Abraham Lincoln were the combination that did the work and what they did they did well. The Proclamation that brings us here to-day was issued September 22, 1862, and was a note of warning to the states in rebellion to lay down their arms and obey the lawful government or it would have full force and effect on January 1, 1863. Had the Confederacy acknowledged the Washington government then slavery would have had another lease on life and the conflict would have been continued. It was the issue of the statesmen of that day that the Union could not be maintained one-half slave and the other half free and slavery had to go.

"But, my friends, why talk about these things now? The war is long since over; the conflict is a thing of the past; the black man is free and by enactment is entitled to all the rights and privileges of any other citizen. They have improved their opportunities this day can testify. The past is gone; the present is ours. Let us improve the present and future by the experience of the past. If we do this, I feel sure that in the near future the color lines that now show dimly will be wholly wiped out.

"I cannot let the attention pass without calling your attention to some names that should be dear to the heart of the colored people. To-day Abraham Lincoln is the central figure, but he should be surrounded with a galaxy of names that will go down in history as champions of human liberty. I will only mention a few. These men fought great battles for human liberty long years before the rebellion. Charles Sumner, Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, Horace Greeley, John C. Fremont, Frederic Douglass.

"My friends I esteem it a great honor to be with you to-day and as the mayor of the city, extend to you one and all the hospitalities and freedom of the city of Wheeling. I know you will be well cared for and well fed, for Old Virginia never tired of giving good dinners for the stranger within her gates. I know the colored people of our city; it has been my good fortune to sit at the same table with some of them years ago.

The mayor's remarks were frequently interrupted by applause and when he had concluded, Professor Jones introduced Miss Ada M. Hawkins, who read the Emancipation Proclamation in a very creditable manner. Miss Hawkins is a clever elocutionist.

Following Miss Hawkins, the Opera House band rendered a pleasing selection, after which Professor Jones said it was his pleasant duty to introduce the speaker of the day. He characterized the meetings of colored people on occasions of this kind as being very beneficial to the race and the community in which they lived; it gave them an opportunity to hear all the leading orators of their race. They had with them one of the 'Big Four.' 'We have heard Langston, Bruce and Douglass and now will have the chance to hear Senator John M. Lynch, of Mississippi.' The speaker spoke in glowing terms of the work these men had done in advancing the race and paid a glowing tribute to the memory of Stephen Douglass.

Senator Lynch's speech addressed the audience, the audience arose to their feet and made the valley ring with cheers, and it was several moments before the distinguished gentleman could proceed. He began by saying he was glad to be with the people of Wheeling, and able to celebrate the thirty-third anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation on the soil of the state in which John Brown had sacrificed his life, as a pioneer of the question of the abolishment of slavery.

He then branched out and compared the condition of the colored race today with what it was previous to the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation and in connection with the condition of the colored people in the south. In this connection the speaker said the conditions were greatly improved, excepting in regard to elections in which the negro has no justice at all. He is intimidated the polls and has no show whatever in casting his vote according to the dictates of his own judgment. In connection with the condition of the colored people by the whites, he said it had been fully demonstrated that the better class of the white citizens, the educated class, were in sympathy with the black man, and would do all in their power to advance their interests. It is only the lower classes of the white race who are doing a disgusting work or worse than that, put down an honest, hard working negro.

He's Against Colonization. For this reason Senator Lynch expressed himself against negroes leaving the country, either for Africa, or any foreign shore, their home is America, in America they were born, and in America they should die. There is no good to come of colonization in foreign lands and it would only be a question of time until discontent would reign and the people would once more seek their former homes in free America. The colored population should stay here and fight out any disadvantages that confronts them.

The destiny of the race is in their own keeping and knowing this they should endeavor by their deeds to build up their standing in the community in which they live. Every colored man should be industrious, he should save his money by being economical in his living, he should be polite to all and rude to none, by this, he would soon advance his race to a level never before attained, and never even hoped for.

The speaker said the occasion was of such a nature that while politics could not be discussed appropriately, still the fact that the Emancipation of the slaves was in its self brought about by politics, matters of a political nature could not be entirely dissociated from the celebration, and that it was every colored voters duty to vote for the party and policy that would undoubtedly benefit him most. He spoke in glowing terms of Lincoln and the men who fought and died that the shackles about the necks of the slaves was in its self shattered and the black man set free. He pictured the negro as a slave and the negro as a successful man. He urged the people to educate their children and to give them a practical education that would fit them for business. 'Don't bring up all your boys with the intention that they be made a doctor, preacher or even a lawyer, but make them business men, and infuse into their minds business ideas. Don't educate all your daughters, expecting they will be school teachers, but give them practical lessons on house keeping. There are too many doctors, lawyers and preachers now for them all to make a good living, and the supply of school teachers is abundant.

Senator Lynch spoke in this strain for some time and was many times applauded to the echo. His address abounded with common sense expressed in a most eloquent manner, and when he had finished the crowd cheered him to the echo.

The Races. After Senator Lynch had concluded, the races announced, took place. There were two of them, a trotting race and a bicycle race, both of which were very interesting.

The trotting race was between Gypsy Boy, Daisy Wheat and Butcher Boy. Only two heats were required to decide the race and the horses finished in the order named. The first heat was made in 2:25 and the second in 2:28. The bicycle race was won by Charley Scott, in 3:08, with Morris Carpenter a close second.

After the races the crowd repaired to the dancing floor, where dancing to the music of the Opera House orchestra was indulged in until 6 o'clock. In the evening a grand banquet was given at Turner hall, which was largely attended, and was a most enjoyable feature of the day. The best colored people of the city and many from other cities were present and participated in the festivities. At 9 o'clock Senator Lynch made a short address and this was followed with dancing, which was kept up until a late hour. At midnight an elegant banquet was given and discussed in a hearty manner. The menu was as follows:

MENU.  
Consomme Imperial.  
Celery, Queen Olives, Stuffed Tomatoes.  
Escalloped Oysters, Maryland Style.  
French Peas.  
Broiled Spring Chicken, Maitre D'Hotel.  
Stuffed Potatoes.  
Potato Salad, Cream Sauce.  
Cold Ham.  
Vanilla Ice Cream, Assorted Cake.  
Coffee, Tea.  
Cheese, Fruit, Etc.

It was a fitting close of the celebration of Emancipation day and the committee having the affair in charge, are to be congratulated on the result of their efforts.

If Pestered Day and Night With nervousness, take Hostetter's Stomach Bitters, which invigorates and tranquilizes the nervous system. The basis of recovery is a reform in errors of digestion. The esthetic nerve and brain are united in the closest bond of sympathy so that dyspeptic symptoms in the gastric region are always accompanied by hurtful reflex nervous action. Both are remedied by Bitters, which also cures malaria, biliousness, rheumatism and kidney trouble.

MY little boy, when two years of age, was taken very ill with blood flux. I was advised to use Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy, and luckily procured part of a bottle. I carefully read the directions and gave it accordingly. He was very low, but slowly and surely he began to improve, gradually recovered, and is now as stout and strong as ever. I feel sure it saved his life. I never can praise the Remedy half its worth. I am sorry every one in the world does not know how good it is, as I do.—Mrs. Lina S. Hinton, Grahamsville, Marion County, Florida.

**Merit Talks**  
"Merit talks" the intrinsic value of Hood's Sarsaparilla. Merit in medicine means the power to cure. Hood's Sarsaparilla possesses actual and unequalled curative power and therefore it has true merit. When you buy Hood's Sarsaparilla, and take it according to directions, to purify your blood, or cure any of the many blood diseases, you are morally certain to receive benefit. The power to cure is there. You are not trying an experiment. It will make your blood pure, rich and nourishing, and thus drive out the germs of disease, strengthen the nerves and build up the wholesystem.

**Hood's Sarsaparilla**  
Is the best, in fact—the One True Blood Purifier. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

**Hood's Pills**  
Do not purge, pain or gripe. All druggists, 25c.

**DISSOLUTION—JOHN BECKER & CO**

**NOTICE.**  
Dissolution of Partnership.

The firm of John Becker & Co., Jewelers and Opticians, has been dissolved, Henry W. Etna, retiring. The business will be continued as John Becker & Co. Thanking our friends and the public in general for the liberal patronage bestowed upon us in the past, we hope to have a fair continuance of the same in the future.

All persons having claims against the firm will present the same for settlement, and all persons knowing themselves indebted will please call and make a settlement. Respectfully,

**JOHN BECKER & CO.,**  
JEWELERS AND OPTICIANS,  
3627 JACOB STREET.

## THE GAS BOARD.

Investigating Committee Reports to the City Council.

SHORTAGE OVER TWO THOUSAND

Dollars, which will be collected from the Person or Persons Responsible.—Last Night's Meeting of Council—Various Items of Routine Business Transacted. City Clerk's Monthly Report—Council Committee Report.

Council met in regular session last night. Mr. P. P. Farrell presided in the first branch and Mr. A. R. Campbell in the second branch chair.

The members present were as follows: First branch—Britt, Butts, Davison, Ebeling, Farrell, Haller, Kalbitzer, Robinson, Zwicker; total, 9. Second branch—Baird, Bender, Bodley, Campbell, Fair, Hahne, John Hess, Lindsay, Retzer, Taylor, Utermohlen, Waterhouse, Wells, Wendel; total, 15.

First branch—Irwin, McKelvey, Menckemeyer, Otto, Paul, Richards; total, 6. Second branch—Arndt, Britt, Elliott, Frew, Hamilton, Herman Hess, Looz, Potter, Stathers, Uelton, Williams, Wille, Maxwell; total, 13.

City Clerk Dannenberg's monthly report of expenditures and balances was as follows:

Department.	Appropriations.	Expenditures.	Balance.
Police	23,600 00	13,778 06	9,822 00
Fire	23,600 00	20,542 53	3,057 47
Electric light	10,850 00	10,850 00	0 00
Public works	22,765 00	21,077 27	1,687 73
Health	9,000 00	8,013 91	986 09
Markets	2,500 00	2,037 84	462 16
Police department	25,830 00	17,502 19	8,327 81
City prison	4,100 00	3,122 74	977 26
Scales	650 00	418 87	231 13
Real estate	2,000 00	1,102 29	897 71
Cemeteries	1,800 00	616 05	1,183 95
Salaries	7,300 00	5,672 81	1,627 19
Contingent	7,500 00	5,733 00	1,767 00
Compromise	2,500 00	1,251 37	1,248 63
Loan of 1877	12,600 00	12,600 00	0 00
Loan of 1881	12,500 00	12,500 00	0 00
Loan of 1882	14,250 00	14,250 00	0 00
Gas board	95,000 00	76,779 56	18,220 44
Loan of 1885	23,700 00	23,700 00	0 00
Collection of	3,500 00	1,148 83	2,351 17
Main street bridge	1,572 50	1,372 50	200 00
1st series	4,170 00	4,170 00	0 00
Main street stone bridge	13,750 00	13,750 00	0 00
Totals	\$124,656 32		

The committee on markets reported bills amounting to \$12; ordered paid. The committee on real estate reported the bid of Joseph Vogler, Jr., for roofing the Fifth ward market building at \$211.75, to be paid out of next year's appropriation. There was objection to such a course, and a motion to refer to the city solicitor was passed.

The committee on scales recommended the removal of two scales; the desired action was postponed until further investigation.

The committee on cemeteries reported bills, \$288.45; ordered paid. At this point proceedings in the second branch were enlivened in great shape by the reading of the report of the committee of council to investigate the affairs of the gas board preceding the present board. The report in full was as follows:

**The Gas Board Investigation.**  
To His Honor the Mayor and Council of the City of Wheeling:

GENTLEMEN—Your committee appointed to examine the affairs of the gas office and works respectfully reports the following discrepancies as per statement attached:

Commencing on November 14, 1893, when the following board of gas trustees was elected by the council of the city of Wheeling, E. M. Holliday, H. H. Dunlevy and E. M. Holliday, and at a public hearing held on November 29, 1893, all members being present, they elected W. H. Fee, secretary; W. R. Isham, assistant secretary and J. B. Wilkie, collector.

We find in delinquent accounts there have been accounts marked paid and not entered in the cash book from November 30, 1893, to October 8, 1895, making a shortage of \$427.24.

We also find in delinquent accounts the sum of \$38.20 collected and not marked paid in said delinquent books, which was not turned over to the city when collected.

We find in tar receipts not entered in register or cash sales from November 20, 1893, to October 8, 1895, a shortage of \$43.48.

We find they have charged the city in the year 1894, three times for one freight bill of \$32.36, making an overcharge of \$64.72, giving the trustees credit for that amount, which is under the mode of doing business in this office at that time, would admit of that amount being taken out of the cash drawer and therefore make a loss to the city of \$104.72.

We find they have charged the city in the year 1894, three times for the vouchers turned over by the retiring board in 1893 to the said board of gas trustees, amounting to \$376.46, making an overcharge of \$752.92, giving the trustees credit for that amount too much; as stated before, under the mode of doing business in this office at that time, would admit of that amount being taken out of the cash drawer and therefore make a loss to the city of \$752.92.

We find \$35.88 paid out of check No. 1812, to pay sundry bills and charged to James Gardner, Jr., no voucher, making a loss to the city of that amount.

We find they have overpaid C. W. Rixey for hauling \$161.82, thereby making a loss to the city of that amount.

We find in April, 1895, they have charged for freight on coal \$611.92. We find a voucher for \$247.32 raised or altered to \$247.32. When we take the proper amount paid for freight \$247.32 off of the amount charged \$611.92, it makes a loss to the city of \$364.60.

**HOW IT WAS DONE.**

1895.	To cash paid freight	\$611.92
June —	To cash paid freight	611.92
June —	To cash paid H. F. Flossheim	3,527.76
Feb. 28.	By 1,500.00 tons coal at \$1.25	1,875.00
Mar. 31.	By 1,500.00 tons coal at \$1.25	1,875.00
Apr. 30.	By 1,500.00 tons coal at \$1.25	1,875.00
Amount overpaid		\$1,260.60

**HOW IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN DONE.**

1895.	Feb. 28.	By 1,500.00 tons coal at \$1.25	\$1,875.00
Mar. 31.	By 1,500.00 tons coal at \$1.25	\$1,875.00	
Apr. 30.	By 1,500.00 tons coal at \$1.25	\$1,875.00	
Apr. 30.	To cash paid freight as per voucher	\$247.32	
June —	To cash paid freight as per voucher	611.92	
June —	To cash paid H. F. Flossheim	3,527.76	
		\$14,409.84	\$14,409.84

You will see by the above statement how the city was made to lose this amount. Had they made the proper entry of \$247.32, instead of the voucher being altered, instead of the \$611.92 entry as above, then the freight bills paid by the city and the cash paid H. Flossheim would have balanced the coal bill and the city would have lost nothing.

Hamilton & Company for putting up a building for the Harvey Process Company. This amount should have been paid by the Harvey Process Company and not by the city. (Copy of bill and check attached to statement.)

We find that it was the custom of the gas board for a while to have people that were not known put up a bonus before turning in the gas. A deposit account was opened for that purpose and cash was made debtor to deposit account. This account has stood open for years with a balance of \$66.20 on the credit side of said account. The trustees ordered the secretary to close said account by drawing a check for above amount and depositing the same to the credit of the treasury. The exact amount was turned into the cash drawer and under the mode of doing business in this office at that time, would admit of amount being taken out of the cash drawer and therefore make a loss to the city of \$66.20. (See minute book page 209, check to pay sundry bills.)

Your committee say this for the reason that they turned over to their successors in November, 1895, the exact amount the books showed to a cent. If the money charged three times, the trustees getting the credit for same along with other charges which are mentioned before, the final settlement would have shown that much more than the books showed.

Your committee find the discrepancy to be \$2,609.34. The report of this committee on February 25, 1896, included a claim for \$12,033.26 against Henry Flossheim and requested that the city solicitor, with this committee, be ordered to proceed and collect the amount of this bill from Henry Flossheim or the trustees (as per instructions from the city solicitor). Since then the city solicitor has advised the board of gas trustees to pay Henry Flossheim what was due him, which the board of gas trustees have done, paying him for all coal delivered up to May 1, 1896, the sum of \$10,437.87, with interest amounting to \$213.94, making the total amount paid to Henry Flossheim \$10,651.81.

It does seem strange that the city of Wheeling should borrow money and pay interest on same when she has a claim unsettled against the man she borrows to pay. We wish to call your attention to the last contract made with Henry Flossheim.

**CONTRACT.**  
WHEELING, W. Va., Sept. 16, 1895.

The within contract between Henry Flossheim, of Painesville, Pa., and the city of Wheeling, West Virginia, whereby renewed for the term of one year, commencing on the 15th day of September, 1895, and ending September 15, 1896, at the following terms: To deliver to the city of Wheeling (Old Hempfield), City weights govern settlements:

\$1.15 per ton of 2,600 lbs. for best; \$1.05 for 2,500 lbs. for run of mines; 90c for nut coal; the grade of coal to be determined by the superintendent of the gas works, and subject to all its provisions in every respect. It is understood that at the signing of this contract the mining rate is 60c and freight 40c per ton.

Witness our hands and seals this 16th day of September, 1895.

H. H. DUNLEVY,  
(Seal)  
E. M. HOLLIDAY,  
(Seal)  
E. BUCKMAN,  
(Seal)

Board of Gas Trustees of the City of Wheeling, West Virginia.

Henry Flossheim furnished coal at the price named in this contract just fifteen days. On October 1st, 1895, Henry Flossheim notified the city gas trustees there has been an advance in the price of mining coal and says: "P. S.—This advance in mining will make the price of your coal \$1.30 per ton, delivered at the city of Wheeling, from October 1st, 1895." Will the city solicitor allow Henry Flossheim to escape again and call this a clerical error, as the city has been paying \$1.20 per ton for coal from October 1st, 1895, up to March 1st, 1896? Also paying the hauling from Baltimore & Ohio yard (old Hempfield) to the scales, when Henry Flossheim, according to his letter dated October 1st, 1895, agreed to deliver the coal at the scales, and that has been the price of the coal provided the trustees allow him \$1.20 per ton for same? You will notice the price of coal was based on the price of digging, 60 cents per ton September 15, 1895. On October 1st, 1895, the price of digging advanced to 64 cents per ton and remained at that price up to March 1st, 1896, and the price went to 70 cents, and that has been the price of the coal provided the trustees allow him \$1.20 per ton for same? You will notice the price of coal was based on the price of digging, 60 cents per ton September 15, 1895. On October 1st, 1895, the price of digging advanced to 64 cents per ton and remained at that price up to March 1st, 1896, and the price went to 70 cents, and that has been the price of the coal provided the trustees allow him \$1.20 per ton for same? You will notice the price of coal was based on the price of digging, 60 cents per ton September 15, 1895. On October 1st, 1895, the price of digging advanced to 64 cents per ton and remained at that price up to March 1st, 1896, and the price went to 70 cents, and that has been the price of the coal provided the trustees allow him \$1.20 per ton for same? 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